

MINUTES OF THE CITY OF LAS VEGAS CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY, JULY 30, 2020 AT 3:00 P.M. IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS

MAYOR: Louie A. Trujillo

COUNCILORS: David G. Romero
Michael L. Montoya
David A. Ulibarri, Jr.

ALSO PRESENT: William Taylor, City Manager
Casandra Fresquez, City Clerk
Scott Aaron, City Attorney
David T. Bibb III, Chief of Police

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

MOMENT OF SILENCE

Mayor Louie Trujillo asked for a moment of reflection for all first responders, healthcare workers, all truck drivers who bring food into the community, all grocery store workers for keeping foods stocked during the COVID-19 pandemic, hospital workers and those who are performing the tests within the community. Mayor Trujillo thanked everyone for their hard work and also thanked the employees of the City of Las Vegas for their hard work in serving the community.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Councilor Romero asked the City Attorney if he recommended going into executive session prior to the approval of the Finance Director.

City Attorney Scott Aaron advised if there were questions regarding that position then it would be best to go into executive session prior to that item.

Councilor Romero made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Councilor Ulibarri, Jr., seconded the motion. Mayor Trujillo asked for roll call. Roll Call Vote was taken and reflected the following:

Michael L. Montoya	Yes	David G. Romero	Yes
David A. Ulibarri, Jr.	Yes		

City Clerk Fresquez advised that the motion carried.

PUBLIC INPUT

City Clerk advised there was no public input.

BUSINESS ITEMS

1. Approval/Disapproval to appoint Jesus Baquera as Finance Director.

City Manager William Taylor advised the charter states he should appoint directors with the approval of the governing body. City Manager Taylor stated Mr. Jesus Baquera was a fairly accomplished governmental accountant, he was the controller at Highlands University for about nine years and was the Associate Deputy controller for two years before that and has many years experience in governmental accounting. City Manager Taylor advised Mr. Baquera was currently employed in the private sector working for Franken Industries and has confidence in his ability.

Councilor Romero asked Mr. Baquera to give his experience with procurement.

Mr. Baquera advised he knew the basics of procurement such as needing three quotes, following the rules and not to buy sole proprietorships without doing research.

City Manager Taylor advised Mr. Baquera would have to go through the New Mexico Municipal League to get certified.

Councilor Montoya asked what the process was for choosing a Finance Director.

City Manager Taylor advised they put it out for advertisement, it was open internally and to the public, and was advertised at the New Mexico Municipal League, local newspapers and the City's webpage. City Manager Taylor advised Mr. Baquera was the candidate they chose.

Councilor Montoya asked if there were other candidates.

City Manager Taylor advised Mr. Baquera was the only candidate.

Councilor Montoya asked about Mr. Baquera's previous positions and why there were so many.

Mr. Baquera advised it was for the betterment of his career.

Councilor Montoya asked Mr. Baquera how long he's been with Franken Industries.

Mr. Baquera advised four years.

Councilor Montoya asked what brought him to the City of Las Vegas.

Mr. Baquera advised he needed a job in Las Vegas and didn't want to commute.

Councilor Ulibarri, Jr., advised he spoke with some of Mr. Baquera's co workers from Highlands and they spoke good about what he did.

Councilor Romero asked for Mr. Baquera to be open with the council regarding any major concerns when it comes to finance.

Councilor Montoya asked what Mr. Baquera's salary would be.

City Manager Taylor advised it was \$78,000.

Mayor Trujillo thanked Mr. Baquera for his interest in working for the City of Las Vegas.

Councilor Ulibarri, Jr., made a motion to approve the appointment of Jesus Baquera as Finance Director. Councilor Romero seconded the motion. Mayor Trujillo asked for roll call. Roll Call Vote was taken and reflected the following:

Michael L. Montoya	Yes	David G. Romero	Yes
David A. Ulibarri, Jr.	Yes		

City Clerk Fresquez advised that the motion carried.

- 2. Approval/Disapproval of Resolution 20-47 to approve the final FY 2019-2020 DFA Financial Report for submission to DFA Local Government Division.

Mayor Trujillo thanked Deputy Finance Director Dominic Chavez for all the time and effort it took to produce the budget and all corresponding documents. Mayor Trujillo recognized Deputy Finance Director Chavez and his staff for their hard work.

Deputy Finance Director Dominic Chavez apologized for the DFA Financial Report being given to the council right before the meeting and advised it was a lot of work to complete. Deputy Finance Director Chavez advised that expenditures/revenues fell into place where they expected. Deputy Finance Director Chavez stated that the Gross Receipts Tax came in higher for June than they anticipated and haven't felt any impact as of yet due to COVID-19.

Mayor Trujillo was glad to hear that the budget was in better shape than what they anticipated and hopes that trend continues and won't impact next year's budget.

A brief discussion took place regarding cuts made in the budget.

Mayor Trujillo thanked City Manager Taylor for all his hard work.

City Manager Taylor advised former Finance Director Mary Romero did a lot of the work getting the budget ready, even after resigning she still came in and helped to get it ready.

Councilor Romero made a motion to approve resolution 20-47 to approve the final FY 2019-2020 DFA Financial Report for submission to DFA Local Government Division. Councilor Ulibarri, Jr., seconded the motion.

Resolution 20-47 was presented as follows:

**CITY OF LAS VEGAS, NEW MEXICO
Resolution No. 20-46
A RESOLUTION FOR THE FINAL BUDGET ADOPTION 2020-2021 FISCAL YEAR**

WHEREAS, the Governing Body of Las Vegas has developed a final budget for fiscal year 2020-21; and

WHEREAS, said budget was developed on the basis of need through cooperation with all user departments, elected officials and other department supervisors, City Administration and elected officials; and

WHEREAS, the official meeting for the review of said documents was posted publicly on July 24, 2020 in compliance with the Open Meetings Act; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Body finds that the Final Budget should be approved as it meets the requirements as currently determined for fiscal year 2020-21.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Las Vegas that the recitals and any exhibits are incorporated herein by reference and the Governing Body hereby approves the aforementioned final budget request and respectfully requests approval from the Local Governing Division of the Department of Finance and Administration.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED this ____ day of July 2020.

Mayor Louie A. Trujillo

ATTEST:

Reviewed and approved as to legal sufficiency only:

Casandra Fresquez, City Clerk

Scott Aaron, City Attorney

Mayor Trujillo asked for roll call. Roll Call Vote was taken and reflected the following:

David G. Romero	Yes	David A. Ulibarri, Jr.	Yes
Michael L. Montoya	Yes		

City Clerk Fresquez advised that the motion carried.

3. Approval/Disapproval of Resolution 20-46 to adopt the final FY 2020-2021 Budget for submission to DFA Local Government Division.

City Manager Taylor gave a lengthy summary regarding the budget.

City Manager Taylor spoke about the Lodger's Tax budget and advised they had a full time employee working at the Welcome Center but eliminated that position which cost about forty thousand dollars and instead replaced it with a twenty thousand dollar contract with the Chamber of Commerce.

City Manager Taylor advised the Chamber of Commerce would have someone there working with volunteers.

Councilor Montoya asked about the cost savings for not having the Fiestas or the Bike Rally and the overtime saved during those events.

Discussion and questions took place regarding cost savings, if a building inspector was budgeted and if the monies were budgeted to pay HUD.

Councilor Romero asked if the Veterans Memorial fund was available.

Deputy Finance Director Chavez advised that it was available.

City Manager advised he did not think the budget format was good so next year they would see a much improved format for the budget.

Discussion took place regarding the abatement fund and possibly selling some properties to improve the infrastructure.

Councilor Ulibarri, Jr., asked about the vehicles being purchased under the street fund instead of using that money towards streets.

City Manager Taylor advised those monies were allocated in the past but will make sure that doesn't happen again in the future.

Councilor Ulibarri, Jr., spoke about the unused vehicles parked at some departments and if there could be an auction for those vehicles.

City Manager Taylor advised there will be an auction in September or October for those unused vehicles and equipment.

Discussion took place regarding what fund the monies from an auction would go into.

City Manager Taylor advised having the transfer of money to HUD as a regular discussion to talk about what HUD is doing with the money and what its going towards.

Discussion took place regarding Las Vegas day at the Legislature and the possibility of doing something different.

Councilor Romero asked if there could be a mid year budget review.

City Manager Taylor advised it would be good to look at things in January.

Councilor Romero thanked Deputy Finance Director Chavez for all his hard work.

Mayor Trujillo recognized former Finance Director Mary Romero for working late hours and weekends to get them where they are.

Councilor Montoya made a motion to approve resolution 20-46 to adopt the final FY 2020-2021 Budget for submission to DFA Local Government Division. Councilor Romero seconded the motion.

Resolution 20-46 was presented as follows:

CITY OF LAS VEGAS, NEW MEXICO
Resolution No. 20-47
A RESOLUTION FOR THE FINAL 2019-2020 DFA REPORT

WHEREAS, the Governing Body of Las Vegas has developed a budget for fiscal year 2019-2020; and

WHEREAS, the final quarterly report has been reviewed and approved to ensure the accuracy of the beginning balances used on the FY 2020-2021; and

WHEREAS, it is hereby certified that the contents in this report are true and correct to the best of our knowledge and that this report depicts all funds for fiscal year 2019-2020

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Las Vegas that the recitals and any exhibits are incorporated herein by reference and the Governing Body hereby approves the

aforementioned final quarterly report and respectfully requests approval from the Local Governing Division of the Department of Finance and Administration.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED this ____ day of July 2020.

Mayor Louie A. Trujillo

ATTEST: Reviewed and approved as to legal sufficiency only:

Cassandra Fresquez, City Clerk Scott Aaron, City Attorney

Mayor Trujillo asked for roll call. Roll Call Vote was taken and reflected the following:

Michael L. Montoya	Yes	David A. Ulibarri, Jr.	Yes
David G. Romero	Yes		

City Clerk Fresquez advised that the motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was no need for executive session.

ADJOURN

Councilor Ulibarri, Jr., made a motion to adjourn. Councilor Montoya seconded the motion. Mayor Trujillo asked for roll call. Roll Call Vote was taken and reflected the following:

David G. Romero	Yes	David A. Ulibarri, Jr.	Yes
Michael L. Montoya	Yes		

City Clerk Fresquez advised that the motion carried.

Mayor Louie A. Trujillo

ATTEST: _____
Cassandra Fresquez, City Clerk